



Office of Pike County Judge/Executive

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Kentucky Public Service Commission
Commissioner David L. Armstrong
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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

December 28, 2008

Re: Mountain Water District

Dear Mr. Armstrong, *Dave*

I ask that this letter be made part of the record.

On December 23, 2008, I was surprised to learn that a Pike County utility, Mountain Water District, had filled an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission to make revisions of non-recurring charges and tariff. That is, a raise in rates charged to the customers the district serves.

This is bad timing. As I have previously stated, "There is a time to justify rate increases and a time to step back." We are all going through a rough time financially. People I talk with are in dire straights. Some people have to decide whether to buy food, medicine, or pay utility bills. I cannot and will not turn a blind eye on this critical situation.

I urgently request, at this time, that the Commission act with compassion and put a hold on all utility requests for a rate increase. Our neighbors are going through difficult times due to the state of our economy. This is the worst recession in our lifetime. Therefore, I strongly urge the Commission to put the Mountain Water District request on hold. Perhaps my feelings in this regard are best expressed by Zechariah 7:9 "**Execute true judgment, and show mercy and compassion every man to his brother.**"

Sincerely,

-Wayne T. Rutherford
Wayne T. Rutherford
Pike County Judge/Executive

